

IT'S EASY TO GREEN UP YOUR RIDE

King County is bicycle country

Cut carbon emissions and get healthier by leaving your car at home and taking your bicycle instead. Metro Transit has bike racks on all of its buses and on many vanpool vans. Many park-and-ride facilities offer storage for bicycles. King County's ever-popular guidemap, *Bicycling in King County*, will help you do some exploring. Visit www.kingcounty.gov/roads

Keeping county roads clean and green

A corps of environmentally conscious volunteers is keeping county roads litter-free. Since 1992, King County's Adopt-a-Road program has organized citizen volunteers to pick up litter and debris along roads in unincorporated areas of the county. So far, more than 250 volunteer groups have adopted 500 miles of roads and devoted more than 32,000 volunteer shifts to cleaning up the community. Visit www.kingcounty.gov/roads

Purchase clean, fuel-efficient vehicles

When purchasing a car, select a fuel-efficient vehicle that uses advanced technology. When you drive, choose fuels from renewable sources, do not idle your vehicle, and observe good driving habits. Making the right choices can reduce your fuel consumption, save you money and yield significant environmental benefits. Visit www.kingcounty.gov/transportation/kcdot/keyinitiatives/fuelefficiency



King County

DID YOU KNOW?

King County's Road Services Division is creating pedestrian pathways and using green construction practices, and the Fleet Division is operating one of the most environmentally friendly government fleets in the nation. Along with Metro Transit, they are providing a clean, healthy transportation system for you and your family.

This information is available in alternative formats. Call 206-296-6500 or 711(TTY Relay).



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It's Easy Being Green

Let King County show you how

Get great green tips on how to...

- Reduce, re-use and recycle
- Volunteer
- Green up your ride
- Reduce your carbon footprint
- Make your home and garden green

www.kingcounty.gov/beinggreen



IT'S EASY TO REDUCE, RE-USE AND RECYCLE

More than half of what is in an average household's garbage is readily recyclable. King County can help you identify and recycle those items.

You can also cut the amount of waste your family generates by purchasing items that are durable and environmentally friendly.

Here are some resources that King County offers to help you *REDUCE, RE-USE* and *RECYCLE*:

🌿 "What do I do with?"

King County's Web site offers information on how to recycle, re-use or properly dispose of nearly 100 categories of items—from compact fluorescent lamps to propane tanks. Visit www.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste

🌿 Become an EcoConsumer

King County's EcoConsumer Program offers resources to help balance consuming with conserving. Visit www.KCecoconsumer.com



🌿 Recycle food

Food scraps and food-soiled paper make up more than 30 percent of residential garbage. Learn how to recycle food scraps in your curbside yard waste cart. Visit www.recyclefood.com

🌿 Recycle fluorescent bulbs and tubes

Fluorescent bulbs and tubes are a great way to save energy but they contain mercury and need to be properly recycled. Visit www.takeitbacknetwork.org

🌿 Safe Med Tips

Safely dispose of your unused medications at a participating pharmacy. Find a location at www.medicinereturn.com Or seal it in a plastic bag and put it in the trash.



DID YOU KNOW?

The new generation of King County solid waste transfer stations make it easy to recycle a wide range of items, giving new life to old products and saving room in the landfill for what really needs to be there.

IT'S EASY TO REDUCE YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

Your **CARBON FOOTPRINT** is the amount of greenhouse gases you produce during day-to-day activities, whether at home, at work or in your car. Shrinking your family's carbon footprint is easy, good for your community and can even be fun.

Here are some ways we can help you meet that goal:

🌿 Choose Healthy Products

Choosing environmentally friendly, biodegradable household cleaning and personal care products minimizes the entry of harmful chemicals into the environment. Check www.SafeCosmetics.org or <http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/wtd/Education/ThingsYouCanDo> for lots of information on healthy choices, including green cleaning supplies from things you already have at home.

🌿 Eat and buy locally

King County farmers grow fresh food year 'round with nearly 1,500 farms across the county and nearly three dozen farmers markets. Buying locally saves energy when items don't have to be trucked long distances.

Visit www.pugetsoundfresh.org



🌿 Volunteer to restore habitat

Work on King County projects to improve parks and natural lands. Native vegetation captures greenhouse gases and creates oxygen, while improving habitat for fish and wildlife. To volunteer, call Tina Miller at 206-296-2990. Visit <http://www.kingcounty.gov/recreation/parks/volunteer.aspx>



DID YOU KNOW?

King County's wastewater treatment plants are big recycling centers. They recycle nutrient-rich biosolids, recover energy from waste gas and produce some reclaimed water for irrigation and industrial uses. By taking the "waste" out of wastewater and creating reusable resources, King County protects the environment and saves more green.

IT'S EASY TO MAKE YOUR HOME AND GARDEN GREEN

Activities at home—both inside and outside—can have a big effect on the environment. King County experts can help you make simple changes in your home and yard that can help save the planet's resources, while saving you money. And keep in mind, who you do business with today, makes a difference tomorrow.

🌿 Plant right for your site

King County's experts can show you how to plant right for your site, using native vegetation that looks great and requires little or no maintenance. You save both time and money when you use native plants and trees, and they require fewer potentially harmful pesticides. Visit www.kingcounty.gov/GoNative

🌿 GreenTools makes green building easy

King County's GreenTools Program helps builders, residents, businesses, the design community and governments create green buildings and sustainable developments. GreenTools also provides technical assistance, hands-on training and grants. Visit www.greentools.us

🌿 Eco-Cool Remodel Tool to green your home

Green home remodeling creates healthy, comfortable spaces that can save you money, increase your home's value and help protect the environment. You'll find tips and resources ranging from selecting healthy paint products, to what you should consider when replacing your furnace, upgrading your kitchen or landscaping your yard. Visit www.ecocoolremodel.com

🌿 Choose environmentally responsible businesses

More than 600 businesses, such as landscapers and nurseries, as well as car repair shops, dry cleaners and dentists display the EnviroStars decal to show they're certified for environmentally responsible practices and reducing hazardous materials. Look for the EnviroStars logo in your community. Visit www.envirostars.org



DID YOU KNOW?

King County is leading the way in promoting Earth-friendly building practices, reducing toxins in our streams and lakes, and is a member of the Puget Sound Partnership, a group committed to restoring the Sound and its marine life.

IT'S EASY TO GREEN UP YOUR RIDE

About half of all greenhouse-gas emissions generated in the Puget Sound region come from transportation.

Here are simple changes you can make in your daily life to help cut harmful emissions and save money:

🌿 Ride the bus

Changing even one daily trip from driving alone to public transit reduces greenhouse gases and the amount of green leaving your wallet. Trip planning is easy and available 24/7.

Visit www.kingcounty.gov/metro

🌿 Join or start a Metro vanpool

Metro's Vanpool Program has low monthly fares that include gas, insurance, maintenance and roadside service. To start or join a vanpool, call 206-625-4500. Visit www.rideshareonline.com

🌿 Try carpooling

Share the ride with neighbors and friends to save gas and other commute costs—and use the carpool lane to zip past traffic. It's easy to find a rideshare partner. Visit www.rideshareonline.com



DID YOU KNOW?

King County has one of the greenest transit systems in the nation. Metro Transit offers customers a variety of green travel choices and is expanding service. Metro provided a record 118 million passenger trips in 2008. Metro has been an industry leader in developing hybrid buses and using clean fuels.